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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

Klofta et al.

Serial No. 09/898,880

Group Art Unit: 1616

Filed: July 3, 2001

Examiner: Konata M. George

Confirmation No. 2203

Title: FILM-FORMING COMPOSITIONS FOR PROTECTING SKIN FROM BODY FLUIDS
AND ARTICLES MADE THEREFROM

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 10, 2002. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the accompanying amendment and remarks while examining the application.

AMENDMENT

In The Claims

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) The disposable absorbent article of claim 20, wherein the skin-contacting surface is selected from the group consisting of a topsheet, a cuff, a side panel, a waist region, a secondary layer underlying a topsheet, a bowel movement pocket, an insertable element inserted into the absorbent article for use during wear, and combinations thereof.
22. (New) The disposable absorbent article of claim 20, wherein the skin conditioning agent is a petroleum-based emollient selected from the group consisting of petrolatum, mineral oil, and mixtures thereof.
23. (New) The disposable absorbent article of claim 20, wherein the viscosity enhancing agent is an organic viscosity enhancing agent having a melting point of at least about 35°C.
24. (New) The disposable absorbent article of claim 20, wherein the viscosity enhancing agent is a wax.